

**ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention provides aqueous pharmaceutical formulations of erythropoietin that are free of human serum blood products, stabilized with a quantity of an amino acid and a sorbitan mono-9-octadecenoate poly(oxy-1,2-ethanediyl) derivative. The present invention also provides aqueous stable, preserved pharmaceutical formulations of erythropoietin that contain an antimicrobial quantity of cresol and a quantity of an amino acid.